

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## REPORT

## 1113

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH  
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

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1. The joint-stock company Omnipol was nationalized in 1945. Before that, Messrs. Skoda owned all the shares.
2. In principle, Omnipol is entrusted with the same functions as those it formerly carried out for Skoda. It now operates on behalf of the entire Czechoslovak metal and machinery industry, i.e. for the nationalized organization Kovostroj established in Prague. It is one of the 120 concerns which belong to Kovostroj and works under this organization.
3. Omnipol is run by a directorate and a management board. The former managing director, Herr Zrno, [redacted] after his death in the autumn of 1947 he was succeeded by a Mr. Prochaska [redacted] [redacted] Zrno's assistants, Dir. Vanik, Dir. Havlicek, and Herr Pstroff, have retained their positions, so the activities of the concern still show a certain amount of continuity.
4. The General Director of Kovostroj, F. Fabinger, selects representatives of the concerns which have the most interest in Omnipol's activities as members of the managing board. Messrs. Skoda, for example, are represented by their financial director, Skrivanek, and by director M. Rubeska, who is the present head of the department of Kovostroj which deals with exports of non-military material.
5. The functions of Omnipol are very numerous. The principal duty of the firm is, as formerly, to supervise transfer operations through the various clearing organizations. For this purpose, Omnipol imports various raw materials and finished goods which are required not only by the metal industries but also by other branches. In addition to semi-precious metals and non-ferrous metals, ball bearings, measuring instruments, etc., Omnipol buys wool, cotton, oil seeds, potatoes, and similar products. Every effort is made to exploit the good business connections which Omnipol enjoys in all quarters of the world. The formerly very large cereal trade conducted by the organization has, however, now been transferred to other companies.
6. Omnipol also carries on export business, mainly in smaller mass-produced articles supplied by Kovostroj, such as crockery, cutlery, household utensils, optical instruments, mass kits, helmets, and the like. As a result of the process of nationalization and concentration of business, the scope of Omnipol's activities is slowly shrinking.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☐ DECLASSIFIED

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7. Onnipol works with its own capital as an independent commercial enterprise and has access to fairly large bank credits. The organizations which have most influence on Onnipol, apart from Kovostroj, are the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the National Bank. These two authorities, although they are not represented on the board, have to be informed of all large transactions. This is done in order to control Onnipol's activities and coordinate them with the interests and programs of the Ministry and the Bank.
8. Onnipol cooperates with the Metal Distribution Office only insofar as it carries out individual purchases of metals from abroad. The cases are thus few and far between. Furthermore, Onnipol frequently receives requests from the Ministry of Foreign Trade to make certain purchases of raw materials on its behalf.

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